



GF&RD

the Gilbert Fire and Rescue Department

VOLUNTEERS

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Kim's Corner

By Kim Yonda
Gilbert Fire and Rescue Department
Volunteer Coordinator

Change is something that, while it may take us out of our comfort zone, also provides us the opportunity to create something new. I'm pleased to announce the launch of our Home Safety Program. In September seven Volunteers



FEMA

completed the required training program for being able to provide home safety evaluations for residents of Gilbert. This team will help individuals identify safety hazards in their homes. To have a free Home Safety Evaluation completed in your home, please call 480-503-6300.

This year September held the opportunity for five activations of our Volunteers. Thank you to the many of you who answered the call to at least one of the activations. Several responded to the request to activate and assist Phoenix CERT; we appreciate the collaboration you demonstrated, while others braved the rain and filled thousands of sandbags for the residents of Gilbert. The time you each shared activating made a difference in many lives. Much appreciation to you!

Thank you to all of our Volunteers for being agents of change!



By Johnna Switzer
GF&RD Volunteer

Be Prepared

As we are all well aware, last month was Emergency Preparedness month. The August 26, *Wall Street Journal* had a very interesting article entitled FEMA Urges Families to Prepare Emergency Communication Plan. According to the article most of the people in the United States do not have a plan for how they will get to a safe place and communicate with one another if a disaster should strike. Surprisingly, (or maybe not) the percentage of people who made a plan, and then discussed the plan with members of the household is: 37% in 2007, 41% in 2009, 42% in 2011, and 39% in 2012. The percentage of people who have an up-to-date disaster supply kit in their homes is: 26% in 2007, 35% in 2009, 33% in 2011, and 29% in 2012. Less than a third of the homes reported having a first-aid kit. FEMA stated that the government may have set the bar so high that people feared getting prepared would be expensive and time-consuming. So this year FEMA will ask families to complete just one task; a family communication plan.

Such a plan, while indispensable in a major disaster, may also be useful for more everyday emergencies such as school lock-downs, or a public transportation delay. The storm we experienced on September 8th is a good example of a time when a communication plan would have been a great help. Guides for creating a plan are available at the government's (www.ready.gov) website. The FEMA ad campaign, which includes public service announcements for radio, TV, and print advertising, ran throughout the month of September. It culminated with National PrepareAthon Day on September 30, when cities hosted community wide disaster planning events.

It is clear that there is still a great deal of work to do in preparing our families, friends, and communities to be better prepared in the case of an emergency or disaster. Are you interested in helping in this endeavor? Gilbert Fire & Rescue will soon be developing a program where community groups, organizations, HOA's, youth groups, etc. can contact the department to receive a 30 minute to 3 hour presentation on Emergency Preparedness. BUT this can only happen if our Volunteers step-up, take the train-the-trainer class, and commit to providing these presentations. What a great way to serve your community. I hope many of you will think about this challenge and step up to the plate.

Butter Braid Fundraiser



Our Butter Braid fundraiser will run from October 1, to October 31 , and, delivery will be on November 14. Butter Braid, hand-braided frozen pastries are made with 100% real butter and the finest natural ingredients. They come in five delicious flavors: Apple, Bavarian Crème with chocolate icing, Cherry, Cinnamon, and Cream Cheese. A light and flaky treat that's easy to prepare and enjoy, you simply set them out, let them rise, then bake. Butter Braid pastries are only \$12 each, and our Volunteer Program earns \$5 on each item! We hope to raise money for equipment for CERT, Community Assistance, and Fire Corps Programs.

To order Butter Braid Pastries, please contact a Gilbert Fire & Rescue Volunteer, or Volunteer Coordinator, Kim Yonda at (kim.yonda-lead@gilbertaz.gov).

You've Been Spotted

Thank you for doing something great!

Larry MacDonald
Johnna Switzer
Jon Switzer
Sonja Grosch
Felix Castro
Roman Kucinski
Suzanne Hoebermann



Bob Hoebermann
Shawn Patterson
Lynne Robison
Gary Kapp
Kelsie Knox
Dianna Erickson
Wayne Szabo
Polly Turner

You are appreciated!



Typing Tip

Even though we were all taught to do it when we learned how to type, double spacing after a period, **when using the computer**, is totally unnecessary. Double spacing makes unsightly white spaces in your printed work. It's a hard habit to break, but try it, it's good advise and policy.

Bears Abound



For the past several years, the Gilbert Fire and Rescue Department has given away hundreds of stuffed animal “comfort bears” to Gilbert children. This is possible because of donations from the Jared Galleria of Jewelry. Jared's is located in the Dana Park Shopping Center at the NWC of Baseline Road and Val Vista Drive.

Jared Galleria of Jewelry customers and team members have donated over 40 million dollars to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in just 15 years. St. Jude leads the way the world understands, treats, and defeats childhood cancer, as well as other deadly diseases.

Every year, beginning in August, Jared's makes these bears available for purchase by their customers for \$12.95, and the net proceeds are passed on to St. Jude's. Customers are given the opportunity to take their bears home, or leave them at the store, where they are then donated to the Gilbert Fire and Rescue Department, and other worthy groups.

Please take the time to stop by and say hello to the Jared's team members, and thank them for the the bears donated to GF&RD.



GF&RD

Protect Yourself from Identity Theft

(Learned in the Training Blitz Identity Theft Class)

By Diane Nielsen, GF&RD Volunteer

There are many ways in which an identity thief can obtain your personal information. A thief may steal your wallet, purse, checkbook, or mail. They may go "dumpster diving" for discarded documents containing personal information, or "shoulder surfing" to read your credit or debit card numbers as you use those cards. Thieves may obtain your information from cashiers, or merchants, or find your information in your home or workplace. Additionally, identity thieves may hack your computer, listen to your phone conversations, or fraudulently obtain your credit report.

One area of vulnerability that is not talked about much is in your car. The vehicle identification number, (VIN) usually located in the upper corner of your dashboard, is visible when the car is locked. It is highly recommended that you cover this number with something, because it can provide access to your name and home address.



Another source of information is your insurance card and vehicle registration. These are required by law to be available if you are ever stopped by the police. However; rather than have these documents sitting in the car for thieves to steal, take a picture of the registration and insurance card and carry it in your phone or wallet. We checked with the police department to see if this would be acceptable, and they were overwhelming supportive of this idea. If you get stopped and don't have your phone, you will most likely get a ticket, but it would probably be dismissed when you show that you do have these items.

A Little Laugh

A three year old child was asked to tell her favorite food.
"Nuts," she said.

"That's wonderful, what kind? Peanuts? Walnuts? Pecans?"
"Donuts."

And For The Small Fry

Q. Why do we tell actors to "Break a leg?"

A. Because every play has a cast.

Cook & Ladder

Lazy Cookie Cake Cookies

Submitted by Katharine Keller
GF&RD Volunteer

1 box yellow cake mix
2 eggs
5TBS melted butter
2 C. mini chocolate chips



Mix together, put in greased 9" by 13" pan and bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.

** Reminder*

Kim Yonda is still collecting recipes, photos of other fire departments, and app submissions for VOLUNTEERS. Please don't forget to send your best ones (with a brief explanation) to her.



Thank You!

I want to publicly recognize and thank two of our Volunteers, Larry MacDonald and Roman Kucinski. They both worked all day on Tuesday, September 16, at Fire Station 11. They were out in the rain filling and loading sand bags the whole day, and didn't go home until 8pm. On top of that, they both came back the next morning at 7am, and worked all that day too. We had non-stop cars here all that day, so I can't begin to tell you how awesome their help was, and how much it is appreciated. Thanks again,

Steve Suhre, Captain/ Station 11
Gilbert Fire and Rescue Department

GF&RD V.I.P.

By Katharine Keller
GF&RD Volunteer

We welcome Tom Dieterle, who originally hails from California, but has lived in Gilbert for 24 years. He is married to Susan, and has two daughters, Amy and Kelley, and a son, Brett. Besides having already served 1 ½ years with Gilbert Fire and Rescue, he also spends his time golfing, bowling, barbecuing, and riding his motorcycle. Tom acknowledges that the biggest challenge of his life was raising three children, yet he is quick to add that his greatest accomplishment, as well as what he is most proud of, is his family. Tom holds character and values in high esteem, and his Volunteering philosophy is, "To help people, and give something back to the community." He claims "Ghost" as his favorite movie. We thank Tom for his continued service with the Gilbert Fire and Rescue Volunteer Program. We are glad he is part of our team!



Photo: Matt Strauss



Taken by Marinos Garbis during his summer vacation. He explains that it is the Fire Department in the small town of Columbia Lakes, Texas, where his father-in-law lives.

COMING UP

OCTOBER

1 ButterBraid Sales Start	6:00 - 7:30 PM		
6 Citizen Corps Operations Meeting	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Room 2	△
13 COM 251 Quarterly Meeting	6:00 - 8:30 PM	Room 1	COM 251 only
15 P.E.T.T. Training	4:00 - 6:00 PM	Station 2	P.E.T.T. Only
15 Flu Immunization Clinic	4:00 - 7:00 PM	Fire Administration	
15 HAM Meeting	6:30 - 8:30 PM	Room 2	HAM
18 Fall Social	11:00 AM	Harvey American Public House	CERT / FC
21 Flu Immunization Clinic	3:00 - 6:00 PM	South Service Area	
22 IMS/Safety	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Room 1	COM 251 Only
25 Collision Avoidance	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	TBD	Specific Volunteer Positions
25 Report Writing and Documentation	12:30 - 4:30 PM	Room 6	COM 251 only
28 Train The Trainer CPR	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Room 1	CERT / FC
30 ButterBraid Sales Due			

NOVEMBER

1 Silent Auction	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Station 1	Open To Public
4 Bloodborne Pathogens	5:30 - 9:30 PM	Room 1	CERT / FC
8 Everyday Heroes	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM		
10 Train The Trainer First Aid	5:30 - 7:30 PM	Room 1	CERT / FC
11 CPR	6:00 - 8:30 PM	Room 6	CERT / FC
13 ButterBraid Pick Up	4:30 PM	Fire Administration	
16 Ironman	Times Vary By Shift		
17 First Aid	6:00 - 8:30 PM	Room 6	CERT / FC

Fire Administration Will Be Closed
November 27 & 28
THANKSGIVING



△ Open to CERT, FC, and VIPS Volunteers

Gilbert Fire and Rescue Department Volunteers register on line.

All others

Register with Kim Yonda @ 480-503-6325 or kim.yonda-lead@gilbertaz.gov